

BOROUGH OF BASINGSTOKE



**ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE
MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH**

for the year

1969

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GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

THE WORSHIPFUL THE MAYOR (CLLR. D. A. KEEP, J.P.)

ALDERMAN H. REDSTALL (*Chairman*)

COUNCILLOR R. H. HOWARD

COUNCILLOR Miss N. K. LAWFORD

COUNCILLOR J. W. LUDGATE (*Vice-Chairman*)

COUNCILLOR R. V. C. MORRIS

COUNCILLOR W. F. SALTER

COUNCILLOR B. L. SOANE

COUNCILLOR J. STOCKMAN

COUNCILLOR L. J. WESTOBY

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT STAFF

Medical Officer of Health

T. E. ROBERTS, M.B., M.R.C.S., D.(OBST).R.C.O.G., D.P.H., D.M.J. (also Medical Officer of Health to Basingstoke Rural District Council and Assistant County Medical Officer, Hampshire County Council)

Chief Public Health Inspector

C. H. DAVID, M.A.P.H.I.
(also Petroleum and Shops Acts Inspector)

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

G. R. HUGHES, M.A.P.H.I.

Additional Public Health Inspectors

P. YEATS, M.A.P.H.I.

G. EVANS

Pupil Public Health Inspector

G. J. SILVER

Clerical Staff

MISS E. A. TATLOW (Senior Clerk)

MRS. C. PURCHASE

MRS. M. RIGLER

MRS. D. KNIGHT

Rodent Operative

P. FAULKNER

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
MUNICIPAL BUILDINGS,
LONDON ROAD, BASINGSTOKE.

TEL. NO. BASINGSTOKE 3232

NOVEMBER, 1970

*To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Basingstoke.*

YOUR WORSHIP, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have much pleasure in presenting my Annual Report on the health of your Borough for the year 1969.

Vital Statistics

For the second successive year the number of registered births exceeded one thousand. The birth rate per 1,000 population fell over the previous year as the number of births decreased by six while the population rose by 2,660. Despite the building activity that is going on, this annual increase was the smallest since 1964/65.

The population figure supplied by the Registrar General for each mid-year places Basingstoke's population for mid-1969 at 43,570, while the annual end-of-year estimate carried out by the Public Health Department places the figure at 45,930.

These figures are mentioned in view of a very recent report by the Hampshire County Council stating that our population is now over 50,000. Unless this figure includes all persons living in the area of the new town map (expanding outside the present boundaries), I am at a loss to find where 4,000 people have been accommodated in Basingstoke during the first six months of the year. If this figure is accurate, and bearing in mind that a greater number of people entered the town during the last six months of the year, we could expect an influx of about nine to ten thousand people during 1970.

This puzzle, however, will soon be resolved when the mid-1970 figures are available at the end of the year.

Although the number of births differs only by six from the previous year, two points are worthy of note, one of which deserves special comment.

During the past ten years, figures have been produced in my Annual Report recording where each birth has taken place. Each year a very small number have been born outside the area, the figure has never reached double figures. This year nearly two hundred babies were born outside the Borough. The new District Hospital, situated as it is some few hundred yards outside the Borough boundary, is becoming the new maternity centre for the Borough. As the number of deliveries increases there, with a corresponding decrease in the Shrubby, it is to be hoped that the trust and understanding which was forever apparent in the past amongst the mothers, Staff and Doctors will soon percolate to the new unit.

Maternity is as much an art as it is a science, and no branch of our profession needs human understanding more than this section.

The other point which is worthy of comment is the different age pattern of confined mothers. A significant increase in births in young mothers occurred during the year :

	1969	1968	1967	1966
A	30	16	16	13
B	63	47	47	40

A and B. Number of mothers whose age at confinement was less than 22 and 26 years respectively (expressed as percentage of all confined mothers).

With a young population little change in the mortality pattern is expected. Since 1967 over 64% of all deaths have occurred in the over 65's, while diseases of the heart and circulation account for over 40% of all deaths.

Social and Environmental Circumstances

A very large number of new buildings in the Town Centre were opened during the year. It is pleasing to report that in those establishments, which are subject to the Food Hygiene Regulations, the standards being set call only for favourable comments. This is especially so in the canteens in the new establishments.

A start has at last been made on the paper sack system of refuse collection. Although only a very few areas have seen its introduction as yet, it is a step in the right direction — that the whole town will one day be served by this system is certain. With the opening of a new and modern refuse destructor it would have been folly to continue persevering with an antiquated method of collection.

The new hospital, whose opening had long been awaited, took place during the time that this Report covers. In order to meet the growing need for such services in this area the first phase, ultimately scheduled to become a maternity unit, has been temporarily converted to being a "Mini Hospital".

My final point of note is, as in previous years, to pay tribute to the help I have received from the Public Health Inspectorate and the Administrative Staff of my Department. This, with the understanding of the General Purposes Committee and the co-operation of the General Practitioners in the town, not only lightens my task, but makes its execution much more pleasant.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

T. E. ROBERTS, *Medical Officer of Health*

STATISTICS OF THE AREA

	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Area in Acres	5,580	5,580	5,580	5,580	5,580
Population:					
Registrar General's					
Estimate, Mid-Year	43,570	40,910	38,230	35,420	32,580
Public Health					
Department,					
End of Year	45,930	43,060	39,790	37,020	33,990
Number of Inhabited					
Houses (as at					
April 1st)	14,964	13,828	13,023	11,893	10,985
Rateable Value	£	£	£	£	£
(as at April 1st)	2,575,344	2,278,865	2,100,030	1,876,358	1,676,307
Product of a Penny Rate					
(Estimated for					
Financial Year)	£ 11,625	£ 10,375	£ 9,100	£ 8,450	£ 7,675

VITAL STATISTICS

	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Live Births	1020	1026	950	847	845
Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population	23.4	25.1	24.8	23.91	26.21
Still Births—Legitimate	11	14	7	15	9
Illegitimate	Nil	1	1	1	Nil
Total	11	15	8	16	9
Total Live and Still Births	1031	1041	958	863	863
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 Live and Still Births	10.6	14.6	8.3	18.5	10.4
Average for England and Wales	13.0	14.3	14.8	15.4	15.7
Infant Deaths	22	12	18	15	16
Infant Mortality Rate per 1,000					
Live Births —					
Legitimate	17.6	9.7	16.8	16.5	18.7
Illegitimate	2.0	2.0	2.1	1.1	Nil
Total	19.6	11.7	18.9	17.6	18.7
Average for England and Wales	18.0	18.0	18.3	19.0	19.0
Neonatal (First Four Weeks) Mortality Rate per 1,000					
Live Births	15.6	8.7	8.4	5.9	8.1
Average for England and Wales	12.0	12.3	12.5	Nil	Nil
Early Neonatal (Deaths under one week) Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births	13.7	8.7	7.3	5.9	4.6
Average for England and Wales	10.0	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Perinatal Mortality Rate (Still Births and Deaths under 1 week combined) per 1,000 Live and Still Births	24.2	23.0	15.6	24.3	15.0
Average for England and Wales	23.0	25.0	25.4	Nil	Nil
Illegitimate Live Births % of Total Live Births	4.2	6.2	6.3	3.8	4.7
Maternal Deaths (including Abortion)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Maternal Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live & Still Births	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Comparability Factors — Births	0.78	0.78	0.79	0.81	0.83
Comparability Factors — Deaths	1.58	1.58	1.51	1.42	1.31

Births

	Male	Female	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Live Births —							
Legitimate	504	473	977	962	890	814	814
Illegitimate	23	20	43	64	60	33	40
Birth rate per 1,000 total population							
(corrected)			18.3	19.6	19.6	19.36	21.7
Average for England and Wales			16.3	16.9	17.2	17.7	18.0

NOTIFICATION OF BIRTHS

	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Born at the Shrubbery Maternity					
Home	609	643	610	525	549
Born at home	166	196	170	158	137
Born at Royal Hampshire County					
Hospital	166	154	190	167	124
Born elsewhere outside the Borough	194	1	1	3	8
	<u>1135</u>	<u>994</u>	<u>971</u>	<u>853</u>	<u>818</u>

POSITION OF BIRTH IN THE FAMILY

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th & Over
1969	491	334	171	92	47
1968	343	324	204	71	52
1967	344	344	173	64	46
1966	289	309	142	62	51

PLACE WHERE INDIVIDUAL BIRTHS OCCURRED

(Expressed as Percentages)

	1st	2nd	3rd	4th	5th & Over
Shrubbery M.H.	49.0 (79.3)	62.5 (35.8)	47.1 (56.3)	51.0 (60.5)	61.7 (63.4)
Home	3.6 (4.9)	23.6 (24.2)	26.9 (31.3)	23.9 (28.1)	— (17.3)
R.H.C.H.	12.0 (15.4)	9.5 (18.0)	19.8 (12.4)	— (11.4)	38.3 (19.3)
Outside Borough	35.4 (0.4)	4.4 (—)	6.2 (—)	25.1 (—)	— (—)

() indicates figures for 1968

AREA ALLOCATION OF BIRTHS IN THE BOROUGH - POLLING WARDS

	Eastrop	Chapel	Norden	Westfield	Fairfields	South Ham
1969	43	114	216	305	339	118
1968	54	76	325	222	187	130
1967	68	107	195	238	214	149

AVERAGE AGE OF MOTHERS AT EACH CONFINEMENT

Up to 20 years	310 (150) (157)	29 — 30 years	97 (76) (79)
21 — 22 years	176 (155) (149)	31 — 32 years	53 (62) (49)
23 — 24 years	162 (167) (149)	33 — 35 years	43 (51) (44)
25 — 26 years	147 (170) (192)	36 — 40 years	45 (49) (41)
27 — 28 years	93 (106) (105)	41 and over	9 (8) (6)

() indicates figures for 1968 and 1967

Deaths

	Male	Female	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
From all causes	163	147	310	309	270	272	244
Death rate per 1,000 population							
(corrected)	11.2	11.8	7.0	10.9	9.6		
Average for England and Wales	11.9	11.9	11.2	11.7	11.5		

ANALYSIS OF CAUSES OF DEATH

Code No.	Disease	Male	Female	Total
B19 (1)	Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity Etc.	1	—	1
B19 (2)	Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	—	1	1
B19 (3)	Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	5	1	6
B19 (4)	Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	2	7	9
B19 (6)	Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	17	3	20
B19 (7)	Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	—	4	4
B19 (8)	Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	—	2	2
B19 (10)	Leukaemia	—	1	1
B19 (11)	Other Malignant Neoplasms	7	8	15
B20	Benign and unspecified Neoplasms	1	—	1
B21	Diabetes Mellitus	4	1	5
B23	Anaemias	—	1	1
B46 (4)	Other Diseases of Nervous System Etc.	2	—	2
B26	Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	1	1	2
B27	Hypertensive Disease	4	7	11
B28	Ischaemic Heart Disease	40	25	65
B29	Other Forms of Heart Disease	5	11	16
B30	Cerebrovascular Disease	13	22	35
B46 (5)	Other Diseases of Circulatory System	7	6	13
B31	Influenza	2	5	7
B32	Pneumonia	8	12	20
B33 (1)	Bronchitis and Emphysema	19	6	25
B33 (2)	Asthma	—	1	1
B46 (6)	Other Diseases of Respiratory System	1	1	2
B34	Peptic Ulcer	1	1	2
B37	Cirrhosis of Liver	2	—	2
B46 (7)	Other Diseases of Digestive System	—	3	3
B38	Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	—	1
B46 (8)	Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	1	1	2
B46 (10)	Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	1	—	1
B42	Congenital Anomalies	2	4	6
B43	Birth Injury, Difficult Labour, Etc.	8	1	9
B44	Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	—	3	3
B45	Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	—	1	1
BE47	Motor Vehicle Accidents	4	—	4
BE48	All other Accidents	3	4	7
BE49	Suicide and Self-Inflicted Injuries	—	1	1
BE50	All Other External Causes	1	2	3
	Total All Causes	163	147	310

AGE DISTRIBUTION

Group	Male	Female	Total
Under 1 year	12	10	22
1—4	1	1	2
5—14	1	—	1
15—24	6	2	8
25—34	3	2	5
35—44	2	4	6
45—54	15	6	21
55—64	31	21	52
65—74	48	38	86
75 and over	44	68	112
Total	163	147	310

	1969	1968	1967	1966
Average age of all Deaths . . .	64.3	65.6	66.6	64.8
Average age of Male Deaths . . .	62.5	64.9	66.4	62.6
Average age of Female Deaths . . .	66.2	66.3	66.8	67.1

MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS - Deaths associated with:

Classification	No. of Deaths			Average Age at Death		Age Range
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	
Stomach	5	1	6	70	77	57 — 82
Lung and Bronchus	17	3	20	69	70	53 — 83
Breast	—	4	4	—	66	62 — 73
Uterus	—	2	2	—	67	61 — 74
Others	10	16	26	72	70	35 — 95

CAUSES OF DEATHS IN INFANTS

Cause	24 hours	Within 1 week	1 - 4 Weeks	1 Month - 1 Year
Asphyxia	1	4	—	2
Prematurity	2	1	—	—
Congenital Abnormality	2	2	—	3
Others	1	2	1	1

EPIDEMIOLOGY

(1) General Health

(a) Record of new claims to sickness benefit received at Basingstoke Department of Health and Social Security.

Per Four Week Periods of Year	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
1st	1,268				
2nd	1,144				
3rd	1,498				
4th	1,082				
5th	1,013				
6th	811				
7th	742				
8th	729				
9th	683				
10th	843				
11th	830				
12th	776				
13th	1,480				
Total	12,899	12,842	9,779	10,734	9,316
Working Population	30,456	28,676	26,722	25,902	23,177

New Claims Per 1,000 Working

Population	423	447	366	410	401
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Due to varying types of delay, a large number of new claims for the last four weeks were not received until the four weeks ending January 27th, 1970. Of the 2,764 received for that period, more than half were believed to be due for December.

The rise could not be attributed to any specific condition, but rather embraced a variety of diagnosis popularly and collectively described as "Winter Illness".

(2) Infectious Diseases

(a) Notifications received during the year were :

	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Erysipelas	—	—	1	—	1
Dysentery	1	—	—	2	—
Measles	386	14	301	396	317
Scarlet Fever	—	4	4	2	4
Tuberculosis — Respiratory	2	1	1	6	4
Whooping Cough	2	19	19	6	1
Infective Hepetitis	1	4	1	—	—
Food Poisoning	4	—	—	—	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	—	—	—	1	—
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	1
Total	396	43	327	413	332

(b) **Tuberculosis:** The following table indicates the incidence of new cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis during the year:

Year	Category 0		Category 1		Non-Tuberculous	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
1969	0	2	2	1	9	4
1968	1	2	1	—	17	10
1967	1	2	2	1	16	18

The Mass X-ray Mobile Unit holds regular sessions at Hackwood Road (Council Chamber Car Park) on the following days :—

1st Tuesday in each month 16.45 - 18.30 hrs.
3rd Tuesday in each month 11.30 - 13.30 hrs.

Year	Total No. X-rayed	No. of Cases of Significant P.T. discovered		Incidence of Significant P.T. per 1,000 Examinees
		Male	Female	
1969	3,174	2	3	1.58
1968	7,165	2	2	0.55
1967	4,432	3	3	1.35
1966	6,885	10	1	1.60
1965	4,811	4	5	1.87

(3) Vaccinations and Immunisations

The immunisation programme was again temporarily put out of its stride by yet another episode of "immunisation roulette", leaving the doctor to explain to the mother that the order recommended for a course of injections for her elder child was no longer in use and had been replaced by another. Remembering the different number of schedules that have been available, one was tempted to state that if a younger child of the same family were to attend in a year's time, yet another schedule might be in use.

The long-awaited arrival of the Measles Vaccine was preceded by much national publicity and followed up with insufficient amounts being available for a considerable time. The vaccine was supplied in doses more suited for dealing with a few individual cases rather than for a national immunisation campaign.

(a) B.C.G.

Year	No. of Children in Selected Group	Parental Refusal, Absent at Tuberculosis Testing or B.C.G. Sessions	Positives	B.C.G. Vaccinated
1969	—	—	—	—
1968	756	187	100	469
1967	660	159	47	454
1966	1,063	266	53	744
1965	509	—	—	338

No B.C.G. Vaccinations were undertaken during 1969 within the Borough of Basingstoke. This was due to the vaccination scheme having been suspended for the major part of the year to avoid any possibility of reaction arising in children who might be given both B.C.G. vaccinations and the measles vaccination close together.

(b) Smallpox

Age	Primary				Re-Vaccination			
	1969	1968	1967	1966	1969	1968	1967	1966
Under 1 year	26	1	25	50	—	—	—	—
1 year	88	288	517	558	—	—	—	—
2 - 4 years	430	59	113	114	19	4	5	2
5 - 14 years	100	4	26	52	129	74	93	75
Total	644	352	681	774	148	78	98	77

(c) Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus

Course	1969	1968	1967	1966
Primary } General Practitioners	260 }	348 }	382 }	291 }
Course } Local Authority Doctors	611 }	559 }	574 }	539 }
	871	907	956	830
Booster } General Practitioners	536 }	549 }	455 }	244 }
Course } Local Authority Doctors	1,593 }	1,656 }	1,472 }	1,352 }
	2,129	2,205	1,927	1,596

(d) Poliomyelitis

Course	1969	1968	1967	1966
Primary } General Practitioners	275 }	341 }	288 }	
Course } Local Authority Doctors	445 }	894 }	614 }	762
	720	1,235	902	
Booster } General Practitioners	449 }	291 }	208 }	
Course } Local Authority Doctors	751 }	689 }	568 }	762
	1,200	980	776	

(e) Measles

		1 year	2 - 4 years	5 - 15 years	Total
1969	General Practitioners	86	107	67	260
	Local Authority Doctors	277	73	355	705
1968	General Practitioners	40	145	65	250
	Local Authority Doctors	81	309	690	1,080

CHILD HEALTH CLINIC

Year	Bramblys Grange		South Ham		Elmwood Way		Kempshott		Oakridge Com. Centre		Oakridge Vivian Rd.		Chineham		Total
	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	A	B	C
1969	799	6217	494	4158	415	3162	488	2495	295	2479	182	3607	409	2406	3092
1968	837	6876	510	2931	429	4251	353	1605	396	2582	+ 383	3924	223	2038	3131
1967	912	6526	334	3395	395	3050	257	1165	605	2655	+ 154	1973	—	—	2657
1966	863	6166	617	5845	464	3280	343	1334	384	2200	—	—	—	—	2671
1965	1050	6311	599	4616	312	1683	313	1447	76	458	—	—	—	—	2350

A—Total No. of children who attend

B—Total No. of attendances

C—Totals of A

D—Totals of B

+ Held at Martin Close

SOCIAL CONDITIONS AND GENERAL HEALTH SERVICES

General Health Services

The local District Health Sub-Committee ceased to function during the year. The Borough Council felt that it had an effective avenue of approach to the County Council via its own General Purposes Committee.

Maternity, Child Health and Health Visiting

Although General Practitioners are continuing to see more of their very young patients at "well baby" Clinics, the numbers of these attending the Local Authority Clinics continue to show a slow rise. This is greatest in the areas served by the Kempshott and Chineham Clinics and reflects the new building growth in these parts of the Borough.

Clinic	Monday		Tuesday		Wednesday		Thursday		Friday	
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Bramblys Grange				X	X				X	X
South Ham		X				X				
Kempshott			X							
Elmwood Way		X				X				
Oakridge (Upton Cres.)				X						
Oakridge Methodist Church								X		
Chineham House							X	X		

The attachment of Local Authority Staff to all General Practitioners is now a well-established feature in the town. The plans for the Health Centre, which had been approved in 1968, were put into effect early in the following year. By the end of the year a great deal of progress had been made on the building.

National Dried Milk, Orange Juice and Cod Liver Oil continue to be distributed largely by the W.V.S. at Chute House. Other food distributing centres are located at Bramblys Grange Health Centre, Elmwood Child Health Clinic, Kempshott Post Office and the Chemist at Kings Road, South Ham.

Once again I should like to express my thanks to all the numerous voluntary workers who give so much of their time at Child Health Clinics.

District Nursing

The following table shows the numbers of cases attended and visits paid by the General Nurses and Midwives.

Year	Midwifery		General Nursing	
	Cases	Visits	Cases	Vists
1969	241 (74)	5804	609	12504
1968	294	6669	580	14966
1967	304	4774	593	12572
1966	291	4419	601	11211
1965	208	3616	351	10141

() Early Hospital Discharges

Home Help Service

Year	No. of Applications Received and Investigated	No. not requiring Assistance	Advanced bookings at end of the year
1969	182	61	9
1968	193	66	6
1967	165	44	6
1966	172	39	10
1965	152	35	13

Origin of Notification

Year	Family Doctor	Medical Social Worker	District Nurse/ Midwife Health Visitor	Statutory Organisations & Social Workers	M.S.S.	Other	Total
1969	84	46	29	12	2	9	182
1968	82	34	40	1	1	35	193
1967	89	29	32	9	1	5	165
1966	99	24	33	10	1	5	172
1965	88	13	31	3	3	15	153

Type of Case		1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Short Term	Maternity	30	38	20	31	33
	General Sickness — Mental —					
	Emergency	11	9	12	8	13
	Post Hospital	19	13	17	11	7
	Child Care	3	6	5	4	6
	Special	—	6	1	1	—
Long Term	Chronic Sickness	24	29	29	27	19
	Aged Sickness and					
	Infirmary	216	207	187	175	161
	Tuberculosis	—	1	1	1	1
	Special	—	1	1	—	1
Total Number of cases assisted		301	310	273	258	241

	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Number of cases completed	121	126	104	106	103
Number of Home Helpers in Register at end of year	40	60	50	47	44

Nursery and Child Minders Regulation Act 1948

Year	Number of Nurseries	Number of Children Permitted
1969	83	918
1968	28	569
1967	21	464
1966	19	410
1965	13	261

The new Regulations which cater for the care of children under school age have now been in force for over a year. Consequently, the number of premises have risen considerably. The rise in the number of children permitted to be cared for has, however, not risen so steeply. The **mean** number per nursery in 1968 was 20, while in this year the figure fell to 11.

The new Regulations stress that when whole-day care is permitted, the ratio of children to helpers is reduced when the midday meal is taken at the nursery. In view of this, 24 of the nurseries are registered to cater for no more than 3 children per nursery. Prior to this new legislation, the figure would have been between 5 and 8, depending on the age of the children.

Family Planning

	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Patients seen .	3381	2287	2526	2044	1508
New Patients .	644*	431	581	426	316
G.P. referred .	N/A	146	141	108	139
Pre-Maritals .	N/A	58	—	—	—
Patients requesting I.U.D. .	152	61	—	—	—
Cervical Smears taken .	257	189 (1 positive)	—	—	—
Patients on Oral Contraceptives .	N/A	196	—	—	—

*223 transferred from another Clinic

The Family Planning Centre is now firmly established in Fairfields Road and with the new influx of population continues to expand its services.

ENVIRONMENTAL AND SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

Rainfall

The monthly rainfall figures and the annual total for the five preceding years are as follows :—

January . . .	4.13 in.	July . . .	1.89 in.
February . . .	1.80 in.	August . . .	4.58 in.
March . . .	2.64 in.	September . . .	0.90 in.
April . . .	0.53 in.	October . . .	0.46 in.
May . . .	2.92 in.	November . . .	3.41 in.
June . . .	0.96 in.	December . . .	3.03 in.
Total for 1969		— 27.25 in.	
1968 . . .		32.87 in.	
1967 . . .		35.79 in.	
1966 . . .		34.27 in.	
1965 . . .		29.47 in.	
1964 . . .		23.28 in.	

Sewerage and Sewage Disposal

An extension of the Sewage Treatment Works was commenced. When completed this will give sufficient capacity at the Works to serve a population of approximately 80,000.

The new trunk sewer between Victory Square to the A.30 along Winchester Road was started and work is still in progress. A sewer to serve that part of Cliddesden Village within the Borough was completed.

Public Cleansing

The new incinerator at Wildmoor was brought into operation in September. The old refuse destructor in Basing Road was closed. Use is still made of the tip site at Marnell Dell mainly for articles it is not possible to deal with at the new Plant and also for the final ash from the new Plant.

Public Water Supply

Construction of a new 3,000,000 gallon Reservoir to serve the town of Basingstoke has commenced, and a start is shortly to be made on a new 27 in. main linking the Reservoir to the town supply at a point near the Nurses' Home on the old Kingsclere Road.

Regular chemical and bacteriological analyses of water supplies in Private Houses, Commercial and Industrial organisations, are carried out on behalf of the Public Health Department.

Old People's Welfare

I am grateful to Mr. Dean, Senior Area Social Worker, for the following Annual Statistics for the Borough :—

Visits, Applications and Admissions to Welfare (Part III) Accommodation :

Year	Visits	Applications	Admissions	Section 47
1969	279	69	44	—
1968	243	40	35	—
1967	189	38	27	—
1966	261	42	22	1
1965	126	25	17	—

Investigations made and referred to :—

	1969	1968	1967	1966
Home Help	1	1	8	10
Meals on Wheels	29	34	30	14
Hospital Bed Service	—	—	—	4
Housing Department	—	—	2	—
Ministry of Social Security	5	11	8	12
Placed in Lodgings	—	—	2	—
Blind Visitors	3	1	—	1
Miscellaneous	16	18	14	22
Visits in respect of Group Dwellings	19	23	—	140

The work of the Basingstoke Old People's Welfare Committee continues to flourish and expand. To write on its work during the past year would be to continue to record the good work that this voluntary organisation carries out.

The toll that Influenza took on the elderly citizens in the town did not pass unnoticed. Plans are now well ahead to offer all persons over 65 residing in the Borough, vaccination against Influenza during the latter part of 1970.

Chiropody Clinics

Year	Bramblys Grange	Windsor Court	Kempshott Village Hall	Total
1969	104	29	11	144
1968	97	41	12	150
1967	52	43	11	106
1966	47	30	11	88
1965	47	14	2	63

Chiropody Attendances

Year	Bramblys Grange	Windsor Court	Kempshott Village Hall	Total
1969	796	259	96	1151
1968	761	347	99	1207
1967	424	360	94	878
1966	374	257	95	730
1965	379	125	23	527

Despite difficulties in obtaining Chiropidists for a period during the year, this service, which was administered by the Old People's Welfare Committee, coped admirably with the demands made upon it.

As the needs increase, consideration may well have to be given to administering this service in part from the Hampshire County Council of Social Services at Winchester.

National Assistance Act, '1948, Section 47

No applications were made under this Act during the year.

HEALTH EDUCATION

(1) Food Hygiene

The second course of lectures and demonstrations leading to the Diploma in Food Hygiene of the Royal Institute of Public Health and Hygiene was held at the Technical College. Members of the Public Health Department were amongst those approached to undertake some of the lectures.

Numerous requests for instruction in this field were received from various organisations. The Department dealt with these through visits undertaken by the Public Health Inspectorate.

(2) Home Safety

Home Safety is a difficult subject to "get over" to the General Public. As opposed to Road Safety, which has had tremendous national coverage through the media of the Press and Television, Home Safety has had little such publicity, yet there are more people killed each year in the home than on the roads.

Some instruction is given to children of under school age who attend Tufty Clubs. During the past year, 9 lectures have been given to Youth Organisations with 3 examinations following these lectures.

During the same period, 6 lectures have been given to Women's Organisations and 3 more are planned for in the near future.

HOUSING

I am indebted to the Basingstoke Development Group for the following information :

During the year 1969 the following new dwelling-houses were completed :—

'Borough' Built

	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Traditional Type Houses .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Traditional Type Flats .	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Traditional Type Bungalows	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Maisonettes	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
	<u>Nil</u>	<u>Nil</u>	<u>Nil</u>	<u>Nil</u>	<u>Nil</u>

'Group' Built

	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965
Traditional Type Houses .	698	601	643	906	682
Traditional Type Bungalows .	3	Nil	3	42	Nil
Traditional Type Flats .	118	194	215	55	Nil
	<u>819</u>	<u>795</u>	<u>861</u>	<u>1003</u>	<u>682</u>

'Privately' Built

Houses	372	201	183	40	114
Flats	4	4	2	Nil	Nil
	<u>376</u>	<u>205</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>114</u>

Housing Associations . .	12	29	4	116	Nil
TOTAL	<u>1207</u>	<u>1029</u>	<u>1050</u>	<u>1159</u>	<u>796</u>

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTION

At the time of compiling this Report we find ourselves involved in the European Conservation Year, 1970 — a year in which the people of Europe are being made aware of the task of arresting that malignant social evil called "Pollution". Much of the work of the Public Health Department has been for years involved in tackling the pollution problem and it is encouraging to observe in recent times the change in the public's attitude towards the protection and improvement of their environment. There is now a sense of awareness and public involvement which, although welcome, is long overdue.

It is interesting to look back over the years and reflect on the work that has been carried out in spite of our extensive redevelopment and expansion, to maintain and create a better environment in this Borough.

Air Pollution

The Borough Council endeavours to maintain atmospheric pollution to a minimum, and the thoughtful location of the housing in relation to industrial development areas bears witness to the Council's desire to avoid possible drift of industrial pollutants into the residential areas. Strict control and approval of all furnace appliances, including chimney heights, ensures a correct combustion of fuels, and a satisfactory dispersion of the flue gases. Further, the background level of pollution is kept low by the selection of gas and electrical heating appliances in the new Council Housing development.

Despite the Council's contribution to Clean Air, an unnecessary problem arises from time to time by the burning of debris following the demolition of buildings and clearing of sites in preparation for further development, mainly new roads. Contractors bring large quantities of old tyres on to the sites, often adjoining existing residential areas, to assist in the burning operations. These thoughtless acts by Contractors not only cause considerable distress to local inhabitants, but foster a despondent attitude towards Town Development.

It is hoped that at some future time consideration can be given to the alteration of the existing smoke-producing fires in the older housing estates, although it is a serious setback to Local Authority Smoke Control Area programmes to learn that certain smokeless fuels are now in extremely short supply, which will undoubtedly seriously affect, for some time, the control of domestic air pollution.

Noise and Vibration

Unreasonable noise and vibration are an intrusion into the personal enjoyment of the environment. Again the careful planning of the location by separation of industrial development from dwelling houses, the provision of amenity barriers in the form of earth mounds and tree planting, have so far successfully avoided nuisance from

factories and highways to the residential areas. There has, unfortunately, been one exception, where a factory was sited in close proximity to existing houses, with a result that persistent complaints have been received from the residents concerned. It is not easy to decide at what point a noise becomes a nuisance and for this reason investigations are often detailed, prolonged and frequently extended well into the early hours of the morning.

The major development projects in the town have sometimes created a problem of noise where Contractors have considered it necessary to continue building operations at night. It has been necessary in one instance to make strong representations to abate a persistent noise nuisance and a threat of pending legal action was successful in bringing night-work to a halt.

Plans required to be deposited with the Council for Building Regulation approval are examined by Officers of this Department in order to anticipate any problem which may be detrimental to the environment, and frequent representations are made to Developers, where appropriate, to resolve the matter.

Water Pollution

Although not a serious problem, the Department have from time to time received complaints of pollution in the River Loddon, which have been found on investigation to be caused by industrial waste. Representations to the industries concerned have resulted in the problem being rectified.

In the pages that follow, an attempt is made to show how the Borough Council and the Public Health Inspectors concern themselves with the control and prevention of pollution of our environment, in the hope that the expansion of Basingstoke will bring about a community appreciative of the work being done by the Council in this direction.

**Public Health Inspections in the Borough
Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963**

The Borough Council licensed one premise under this Act for the boarding of dogs. The premise was inspected on a number of occasions during the year to ensure compliance with the provisions prescribed in the Licence.

**Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act 1960
Caravan Sites Act 1968**

There are two licensed caravan sites in the Borough, on which 1 and 35 caravans are sited, respectively.

The larger of these two sites is in the course of being "run-down".

The Council's Caravan Park, siting 95 caravans at Attwood Close, continues to serve a useful purpose.

Clean Air Acts 1956 and 1968

**Applications for Prior Approval and Notifications of
Boiler Installation**

No. of applications received and approved under Section 3	1
No. of Notifications under Section 3 to install boilers	16
No. of Plans and applications received and approved regarding chimney heights — Section 10	17

Fifteen complaints were received during the year concerning nuisance from air pollution. Complaints in the main were from bonfires, and the burning of trade refuse at two retail shop premises. A number of complaints were also received from occupiers of premises affected by chalk dust resulting from road construction.

It is pleasing to report the successful conclusion to the nuisance caused by dust and fumes from a large industrial concern in the Borough and referred to in previous Annual Reports. The Company have now installed a dust arresting plant which has dealt satisfactorily with the nuisance.

Factories Acts 1937/1961

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	11	—	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	114	25	—	—
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding Out-workers' premises)	33	—	—	—
Total	158	25	—	—

DEFECTS:

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	To H.M. Inspector	Referred By H.M. Inspector	
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	—	—	—	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	1	—	1	—
Other Offences	—	—	—	—	—
Total	2	1	—	1	—

Part VIII

Outwork. — Wearing Apparel (Making, etc.) 21

Food and Drugs Act 1955

Inspection of Food

Frequent visits were made to food retail shops and a food distribution depot in the Borough resulting in the following types and quantities of food, totalling 26 tons. 7 cwt. 3 qrs. 1 st. 2 lb., being condemned as unfit for human consumption.

This shows a considerable increase in the amount of food condemned last year (10 tons. 2 cwt. 1 st. 2 lbs.).

	Tons	cwts.	qrs.	sts.	lbs.
Meat from wholesale and retail premises	17	14	—	1	8
Cooked meats and meat products	—	—	—	2	—
Canned meats	—	6	2	1	2
Other canned food	6	17	1	1	9
Fish (Fresh)	—	1	—	1	8
Fruit and Vegetables (Fresh)	—	—	—	1	11
Other Foods	1	7	3	1	6

In addition, 401 lb. of Imported Food was condemned as a result of inspection under the Imported Food Regulations 1968.

Food Complaints

The Department dealt with 61 complaints made by members of the public concerning the sale of food. Each complaint received a full investigation, including interviews with retailers, wholesalers and manufacturers. In some instances the offending foods were referred to the Public Analyst or the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Laboratories at Reading for further detailed examination and identification purposes. The results of this procedure have been found to be of great assistance in deciding the appropriate action which should be taken.

Legal Proceedings in connection with offences under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955

A food retailer was fined £15 0s. 0d. with 7 gns. costs for selling a meat pie containing mould.

A food retailer was fined £30 with 7 gns. costs for selling eggs unfit for human consumption.

A food retailer was fined £10 with £4 14s. 6d. costs for selling a sausage roll containing mould.

A food retailer was fined £15 for selling a fruit pie containing mould.

A manufacturer was fined £15 with £4 14s. 6d. costs for selling a bottle of lemonade containing mould.

A food retailer was fined £10 for selling a fruit pie containing mould.

A manufacturer was fined £25 for selling a meat pie containing mould.

A manufacturer was fined £20 with £4 14s. 0d. costs for selling a bottle of lime containing foreign matter.

A manufacturer was fined £25 with £4 14s. 0d. costs for selling a loaf of bread containing foreign matter.

A manufacturer was fined £15 with £4 14s. 0d. cost for selling a packet cake mixture containing an insect.

A food-packer was fined £20 for selling butter containing a piece of wire.

Total	Fines	£200	0s.	0d.
	Costs	£38	5s.	0d.

Milk

There are 43 registered distributors of milk and cream in the Borough, 42 of whom are, in addition, licensed on behalf of the Hampshire County Council (as the Food and Drug Authority) and in accordance with the provisions of the Milk (Special Designations) Regulations 1963/65, to sell designated milks.

Milk Sampling

The following table shows the designation, numbers and results of milk samples taken during the year and submitted for bacteriological examination :

Types of Milk		Untreated	Pasteurised	Sterlised	Total
Number of Samples		3	20	1	24
Phosphatase Test	Satis. Unsatis.	— —	20 —	— —	20 —
Methylene Blue Test	Satis. Unsatis.	3 —	20 —	— —	23 —
Turbidity Test	Satis. Unsatis.	— —	— —	1 —	1 —
Test for Brucella Abortus	Neg. Pos.	3 —	— —	— —	3 —

Ice Cream

37 samples of Ice Cream were submitted for analysis, with the following results :

- Grade 1 — 23 (includes 2 samples of soft ice cream)
- Grade 2 — 10
- Grade 3 — 2
- Grade 4 — 2

In each case the samples reported as unsatisfactory were from itinerant vendors and the manufacturers concerned were notified so as to secure better hygienic standards of the product.

I am grateful to Mr. J. S. Preston, Chief Sampling Officer for the Hampshire County Council, for the following information relating to Food and Drugs Sampling during the year 1968/69.

“During the year ended 31st March, 1969, the samples procured under the Food and Drugs Act 1955 included 106 within the Borough of Basingstoke.

Milk Samples

37 samples of milk, including three of “Channel Islands”, were obtained. One sample of ordinary milk, which was taken as the result of a complaint, was found to contain pupae of fruit flies. The dairy company was fined £20 and ordered to pay £7 14s. 0d. costs.

Miscellaneous Samples

69 samples of articles other than milk were obtained, three being the subject of adverse reports.

The adverse reports were in respect of:

- (1) A sample of cheese which was submitted as the result of a consumer complaint. The cheese contained foreign matter consisting of a fragment of plastic foil. This case was dealt with by the issue of a warning to the company which processed the cheese.
- (2) A sample of pork sausage meat, the meat content of which was slightly below the acceptable minimum of 65% meat. The discrepancy was not such as to warrant legal action but the matter was brought to the notice of the vendor.
- (3) A sample of buttered buns purchased at a cafe. The analysis showed a mixture of butter and margarine containing 60% butter had been spread on the buns. When the results were made known to the proprietor he drew attention to a small notice on the cafe menus which referred to a "butter mix" which was being used. This notice had not been seen at the time of sampling and it was not considered adequate for the purpose intended. A warning was given to the cafe proprietor, together with an explanation of the requirements applicable in this case.

General

In addition to the samples taken under the Food and Drugs Act, the usual attention was given to the labels and descriptions of food and drugs under the provisions of the Labelling of Food Order and the Pharmacy and Medicines Act. There were no serious complaints concerning these matters."

Food Hygiene Regulations 1955

A total of 738 visits were made during the year to various food premises. Generally the standard of hygiene of premises was found to be satisfactory. 112 infringements of the Food Hygiene Regulations were found on inspection but these were of a minor character and were dealt with by informal action.

Summary

Total number of visits to food premises, including mobile shops	738
Number of premises and vehicles where infringements were found	36
Number of preliminary notices served for structural defects	16
Number of verbal notices	5
Number of defects and other infringements remedied	18

As will be seen, the standard of food hygiene in new food shops is very high indeed. Intended occupiers being aware these days of early consultation with the Public Health Inspectors at plans stage, ensures that all necessary equipment, fittings and layout of the premises are in compliance with the Food Hygiene Regulations.

General Inspections

As a result of 887 complaints received and routine inspections, 136 notices (written and verbal) were served to remedy matters coming within the purview of the Public Health Department.

Authority was given for the service of 6 Statutory Notices under the provisions of the Public Health Act 1936 requiring repairs to dwelling houses and the repair of a drainage system.

HOUSING ACTS 1957/1969

24 dwelling houses in which defects were found have been made fit as the result of informal action.

Improvement Areas

In addition, 2 Statutory Notices were served on owners of properties requiring modern amenities in houses situated in areas already declared as Improvement Areas by the Council.

Houses Outside Improvement Areas

A further two Statutory Notices were served on the owner of a property outside an Improvement Area.

Improvement Grants

During the year the Council approved a total of 8 Standard and 11 Discretionary Improvement Grants.

Houses-in-Multiple-Occupation

Eight inspections were made during the year of houses-in-multiple-occupation regarding excess number of persons resident and house defects.

LICENSING ACT 1964

Seven visits were made to premises requiring registration under this Act. The Borough Council are required to report mainly on the grounds of hygiene and public health as to the suitability of the premises but it was not necessary for any objection to be made to the Magistrates regarding any of the applications.

NOISE ABATEMENT ACT 1960

The number of complaints under this heading showed a decrease over the previous year. Of the 8 complaints made, 3 complaints concerned noise from industrial plant and building operations, 3 as the result of barking dogs. The two remaining complaints concerned a noisy electric fan and noise from neighbours late at night. All complaints were investigated and dealt with by informal action.

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

The number of premises registered under this Act at the end of the year totalled 435, of which 76 were new registrations. There were 343 visits made to these premises, including 168 general inspections, resulting in the finding of 183 defects. These mainly consisted of redecoration; improvements to lighting and ventilation; provision of washing facilities, First Aid equipment and thermometers; all were successfully dealt with by informal action.

Many matters under this Act are of a structural nature and as a result there is close co-operation with the Borough Surveyor's Department to ensure that plans submitted in connection with the building of all new shops and offices are examined by Officers of this Department to ensure compliance with the provisions of the Act.

The large developments being undertaken in the Borough have shown the desirability of co-ordinating meetings of Architects, Heating and Ventilation Engineers, Fire Authority and H.M. Inspector of Factories, together with the Council's own Officers. Meetings of this kind are proving very successful in that they provide an efficient and informative method of dealing at one time with all the legislative matter involved with major development schemes.

PEST CONTROL

General

462 complaints were received during 1969 and 2,692 visits (including surveys) were made to various premises, including dwelling houses, schools, agricultural and business premises.

In connection with rodent control, 2,856 poisoned baits were laid, resulting in 284 "complete takes" and 1,262 "part takes".

As in the previous years, a free service treatment was given to private dwellings but a nominal charge continued to be made for treatment to business premises.

The frequent inspections made in areas where major demolition is undertaken to identify as quickly as possible any rodent infestations has resulted in no serious outbreaks occurring.

Treatment of Sewers

Of the 54 manholes treated for test purposes only 2 showed evidence of an infestation.

Further treatment of the two infested manholes, together with adjoining manholes, was carried out and no further infestation discovered.

The Council continued their membership of the North Hants Pest Control Committee and your representatives attended all meetings held during the year.

Miscellaneous Infestations (other than vermin)

A total of 179 infestations under this heading, including 81 wasps nests, were dealt with during the year. In addition, 24 feral pigeons were trapped in the town centre.

PET ANIMALS ACT 1951

There are three premises licensed in accordance with this Act in the Borough. Two of these premises trade in a variety of pets; the remaining licence is issued to a person trading in tropical fish only.

PETROLEUM (CONSOLIDATION) ACT 1928

68 premises are licensed to store petroleum spirit and petroleum mixtures. 207 visits were made to these premises during the year to ensure compliance with the conditions of the licence with special regard to the safe storage and handling of these dangerous liquids.

THE GAME ACT 1831

There are 6 premises from which persons are licensed to deal in game within the Borough.

Water Samples

2 samples of mains water were submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for bacteriological examination and two samples were submitted to the Public Analyst for chemical analysis and all were reported as satisfactory.

Swimming Pools

18 samples of water taken from the West Ham Swimming Pool were submitted for bacteriological examination. Two samples were reported as containing a slight unsatisfactory bacterial content which was corrected, the remaining samples being reported as satisfactory.

In addition, 16 water samples were taken from school swimming pools, 1 of which was reported as having an unsatisfactory bacterial count, the remaining samples being reported as satisfactory.

Drainage

Tests

Smoke	2
Coloured Water	1

Infected Rooms and Articles

Rooms disinfected	33
Miscellaneous articles disinfected	3

Infestations

Rooms disinfested	246
Bedding disinfested	7
Miscellaneous disinfections	21

TABLE I*Classified Statement of Premises Inspected:*

Inspections under Housing Acts	100
Inspections under the Public Health Acts	276
Works in progress	1
Re-inspections	286
Food Premises	738
In connection with Infectious Diseases	121
Shop Acts	161
Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963	379
Petroleum Act	207
Factories Act	25
Noise Abatement Act 1960	85
Out-workers	24
Houses-in-Multiple-Occupation	8
Dairies and Milk Shops	25
Schools	10
Common Lodging House	3
Verminous Premises	76
Drain Tests	26
Moveable Dwellings	47
Ice Cream Premises	55
Watercourses and Water Sampling	79
Clean Air Acts 1956 and 1968	74
Animal Boarding Establishments Act 1963	2
Licensing Act 1964	7
Pet Animals Act 1951	9
Miscellaneous visits	600
Interviews	1,017
Pest Control	253
Imported Food Regulations 1968	19
	<hr/>
Total	4,713
	<hr/>

TABLE II*Defective Conditions Recorded:**Water Closets—*

Defective flushing cisterns	1
Reconstruction and repairs	4

Drains—

Choked drains	—
Defective drains	3
Inspection Chambers repaired	—

Dustbins—

Defective	8
---------------------	---

Dampness—

Defective roofs	15
Defective gutters and rain-water pipes	7
Walls	17

Food Hygiene Regulations—

Food rooms repaired	14
Miscellaneous infringements	38

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act 1963—

Abstract Posted	32
Accommodation for clothing	1
Facilities for taking meals provided	2
First Aid equipment	30
Lighting improved	33
Suitable seats provided	4
Temperature improved	12
Thermometers provided	32
Structural alterations and re-decorations	13
Sanitary facilities	9
Washing facilities	5
Staircases and Passages	6
Water Supply	4

Petroleum Acts 1928/1936—

Miscellaneous Infringements	1
---------------------------------------	---

General—

Defective, etc., walls and ceilings	23
Defective floors	10
Defective doors	2
Defective fireplace	1
Defective chimneys	3
Defective windows	14
Accumulations	8
Yards repaired and cleansed	2
Defective sinks and baths	1
Miscellaneous	25

I should like to record my thanks to the Chairman and Members of the General Purposes Committee for their continued interest and support during the year; also for the co-operation of the Corporation Officers, and for the loyalty and assistance of the Health Department Staff.

C. H. DAVID
Chief Public Health Inspector

